

What is claimed is:

1. A lighting unit comprising:

a pushbutton;

a switch device for performing electrical ON-OFF by
5 depressing said pushbutton;

an EL device including a light-emitting section
corresponding to said pushbuttons provided to at least one of above and under
said switch device,

wherein the light-emitting section of said EL device includes at
10 least one of an optically transparent electrode layer and a backplate layer,
formed partially on an optically transparent insulating base, and both of the
layers and a light-emitting layer, selectively laminated on the optically
transparent insulating base.

15 2. The lighting unit of claim 1, wherein said EL device includes
another light-emitting section corresponding to a display device placed beside
said pushbutton.

3. The lighting unit of claim 1, further comprising:

20 an optically transparent intermediate electrode layer
selectively laminated between the optically transparent electrode layer and the
backplate layer; and

a first light-emitting layer provided between the optically
transparent electrode layer and the intermediate electrode layer, and a second
25 light-emitting layer provided between the intermediate electrode layer and the
backplate layer, wherein the first layer emits light in different color from the
second layer.

4. A lighting apparatus comprising:

said lighting unit, as defined in claim 1 or claim 3, for illuminating said pushbuttons; and

- 5 a control circuit, coupled to said lighting unit, for controlling light emission from said EL device.

5. The lighting apparatus of claim 4, wherein said control circuit controls said EL device by depressing a predetermined pushbutton.

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6. A lighting apparatus comprising:

said lighting unit, as defined in claim 2, for illuminating said display device; and

- 15 a control circuit, coupled to said lighting unit, for controlling light emission from said EL device.

7. The lighting apparatus of claim 6, wherein said control circuit controls said EL device by depressing a predetermined pushbutton.